**Contact: Jamie Hanks** 

202/225-8490

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** February 11, 2009

## Alexander Announces DOT Funding for Avoyelles Parish Airport Authority

**Provides \$41,528 to Rehabilitate Runway Lighting WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will award \$41,528 to the Avoyelles Parish Airport Authority.

The grant is being disbursed by the DOT through the Federal Aviation Administration. It is intended to help the Avoyelles Parish Airport Authority to rehabilitate the runway lighting, increasing the reliability of the existing lighting system and enhancing the safety of aircraft operations at night and in low visibility conditions.

"This grant will make the day-to-day operations of the airport much safer," said Alexander, who has fought hard to secure support for transportation programs in the 5th District.

"With recent events, such as the 'Miracle on the Hudson,' it is especially important that our airports make necessary improvements to help ensure the safety of their passengers," Alexander added. "I am pleased that the DOT is providing funding so that these needed improvements can be made."